Committee has since been constituted in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The Committee is expected to submit its report within a period of six months.

(c) and (d) There are proposals for setting up a Petroleum Training School and an Oil Museum in Assam. Final decision in regard to Petroleum Training School is yet to be taken by Government. For setting up of Oil Museum in Assam, a trust has been formed in the name of K.D. Malaviya National Oil Museum in August, 1999, the museum is to be set up with contribution by the oil companies and by the OIDB. Eight Bighas of land have been allotted by Government of Assam and further action is in process.

LPG dealers in Assam

4221. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of LPG dealers functioning in Assam and the number of connections with each of them;

(b) whether the most of these dealers are black marketing LPG cylinders by showing the shortage of LPG;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any action in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) The total number of LPG distributors of PSU Oil Companies operating in the State of Assam as on 1-1-2000, was 151 and the LPG customer population enrolled with these distributors as on 1-1-2000, was about 8.55 lakhs.

(b) to (d) No established case of malpractice related to black marketing of LPG Cyclinders have been received by Oil Marketing Companies during the period April, 99 to Feb., 2000 in the State of Assam.

Exemption for Payment of Central Sales Tax to RPL

4222. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reliance Petroleum Ltd. has got any exemption for payment of Central Sales Tax (CST);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any reimbursement is proposed to be made from Oil Industry Pool Account to the National Oil Companies for their payment of CST to Reliance Petroleum Ltd.; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) and (b) M/s. Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL) have been granted eligibility certificate for sales tax incentives by the State Government of Gujarat. The scheme permits RPL to avail sales tax exemption and/or deferment benefits. Under this scheme. RPL has opted for sales tax composite benefits. Accordingly, it can avail of sales tax exemption and/or sales tax deferment. M/s RPL have conveyed that they would absorb 33% of the sales tax amount payable on their controlled petroleum products moved inter-state.

(c) About 2/3rd amount of the CST under-recoveries on account of inter company sales of controlled petroleum products of RPL to be moved inter-state would be reimbursed to oil marketing companies from oil pool account.

Infrastructure to Supply LPG for Motor Vehicles

4223. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the major Oil companies have the necessary infrastructure to supply LPG for motor vehicles in all parts of the country;

(b) in how many States, the oil companies have set up such LPG facilities;

(c) whether it is a fact that no such arrangements have been made in Andhra Pradesh to supply LPG to motor vehicles;

(d) if so, the reasons for such delay;

(e) what steps will be taken to establish such LPG facilities on a time bound schedule in Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) to (f) The use of LPG as auto fuel will commence after the amendments in the Motor Vehicles Act etc. is made. Public Sector Oil Companies have initiated the necessary